

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**



RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Time to Renew!

Please help us continue to provide quality programs, activities, and events for our club members. One of the ways we do this is through the RARS annual dues. The membership year is July 1-June 30, so it's time to renew!

There are a number of ways to pay your dues.

- Pay at a RARS meeting.
- Mail your dues to the RARS Treasurer:
Greg Seamster
1405 Leanne Court
Raleigh, NC 27606
- Pay online at <http://www.rars.org/joinrars.htm>.
Online payments are made via PayPal to Raleigh_ARSE@earthlink.net.

If there are no data changes to your membership (address, call, license class, etc.), you do not need to fill out a renewal form. The membership form can be downloaded in a PDF format from the website.

Please provide updates for your interest in public service, SKYWARN, and ARES. You are also welcome to renew for multiple years. Thanks! We couldn't do it without you.

Dues

Regular: \$18

Reduced (Under 12 or Over 60): \$12

Associate (Not Licensed): \$9

Each Additional Family Member: \$5

Next RARS Meeting: July 6

7:30 PM: "Antique Radio Repair" by Tom Lewis N4TL.

RARS OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Karl Bowman

W4CHX

919.669.6068

w4chx@arrl.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Justin Pinnix

AJ4MJ

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SECRETARY

Charles Swindell

WB4DCM

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TREASURER

Greg Seamster

KE4PAX

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS (editor@rars.org)

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: First Alliance Church
4400 Buffaloe Road
Raleigh, NC

Time: People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

RARS Monthly Dinner

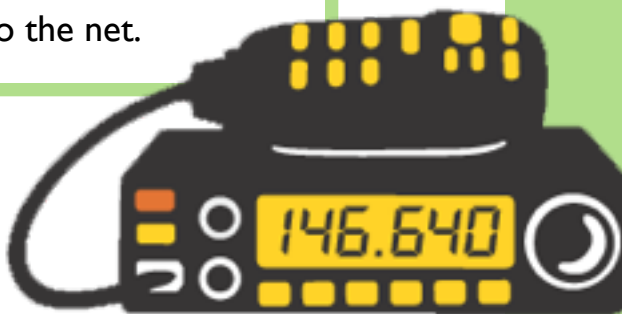
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.130 (82.5 PL), 146.640, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



VE TESTING

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

July Birthdays

James	KE4DRN	7/3
Will	KM4SZ	7/4
Brooks	K4BRX	7/5
Bill	N9JLP	7/6
Cathy	KA3QPU	7/9
John	AI4RT	7/10
Annette	KB4AQH	7/11
Edward Dale		7/13
Doug	AD4UL	7/14
Giff	KC4SAM	7/15
Jerry	WA1WHD	7/15
Bob	K4RLC	7/19
John	KI4VVC	7/22
Bruce	N4BGG	7/24
Ferdinand	AD4RC	7/25
Barbara Frantz		7/25
Lee	WB4DRJ	7/25
Charles	WB4DCM	7/26
Glenn	KS4VA	7/27
William	K4CIA	7/28
Meme	KE4NGM	7/28
Dave	W4YDY	7/29
Bob	KI4YXM	7/30
Todd	N2XL	7/31

Upcoming Hamfests

7/10 Firecracker Hamfest
Salisbury, NC
<http://www.rowanars.org>

7/17 Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest
Cary, NC
<http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/swapfest.html>

7/17 6th Annual MCARC Hamfest
Athens, TN
<http://www.mcminnarc.com/fest/fest.html>

7/24 34th Annual Western Carolina Hamfest
Waynesville, NC
<http://www.wcars.org/hamfest.html>

7/24 CARC Hamfest 2010
Cullman, AL
<http://qsl.net/cullmanarc/flyer2010.pdf>

7/31 Roanoke Valley Hamfest
Vinton, VA
<http://www.w4ca.us/page.php?5>

New RARS Members

Jim Boyle	KF4MMQ
Ralph Elia	KJ4TTI
Donald Little	KJ4TTP
Tom Magnani	K2UCU
Joe Sheets	KJ4LZM

May 2010

RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 472
Traffic: 36/28
Minutes: 575
Sessions: 31

Special Interest Nets:

Checkins: 120
Minutes: 580
Sessions: 15

A Field Day Thank You!

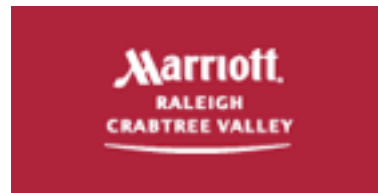
We'd like to thank all our generous sponsors for Field Day 2010. Your support is greatly appreciated!



**Internal Medicine
of Raleigh**



Holiday Inn Express Apex



Manassas Hamfest

Article by Howard Goodman, N4KYW

Sunday, June 13, while returning from Pennsylvania I veered off the Washington Beltway onto I-66 and eventually to Manassas for the **Ol' Time Virginia Hams A.R.C. Hamfest and Computer Show**, conveniently rescheduled to the second Sunday in June so as to coincide with my trip.

This hamfest, held at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, is approximately the same magnitude as RARS, except that more of the non-commercial sellers are outside, a reality which can test one's staying power in the midst of the intense heat. In fact, I'd say it parallels nearly exactly the Shelby Hamfests I've attended in the past, both in accommodations and WX.

About a dozen commercial vendors, a number of them familiar faced—AC-DC Electronics, Tar Heel Antennas, KJI Electronics, Eagle 1 Communications—took up residence in the two available indoor buildings, both air conditioned. Even the guy with all those LED flashlights and other Made-in-China toys was there. Outside under the sun, about one hundred tailgaters offered for sale everything that any ham could possible imagine they needed. My favorite: the guy with several tables of one-dollar grab bags of electronic parts, who by the way was frequented here by tons of hams as he was at RARSfest. My best pick for attendee (other than me) who resembled someone from back home: an AB4OZ look-alike ... at least I don't think it was Alan.

I paid my entrance fee, \$7.00, at the gate, and enjoyed the event for an hour and a half while ignoring the heat. Total goodies purchased: one grab bag. Next year, you may want to consider Ol' Time Virginia Hams A.R.C. Hamfest as an early season alternate to Shelby. Be sure to bring a friend, though. Familiar company is always better.

May 18, 2010 RARS Board Meeting Minutes

**Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM,
RARS Secretary**

Present: Karl W4CHX, Don WA4AVU, Justin AJ4MJ, John AI4RT, Ken KI4OTO, Greg KE4PAX, Charlie WB4DCM, and visitors Jack N6UYB and David KF4VXJ.

Apologies: Steve KJ4BX and Virginia NC4VA.

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1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.
2. Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX and Charles WB4DCM): The Minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting of the RARS Board were approved with the following corrections: in section 9b, line 2, use the word, “too” instead of “to”.
3. Vice President’s report (Justin AJ4MJ): The program for the June meeting will be Field Day presented by Mike WA4BPJ.
4. Treasurer’s report (Greg KE4PAX): Karl W4CHX asked Greg if the income tax returns for RARS’ 501(c)(3) status are up to date. The tax returns have been continuously filed since our incorporation. The 2009 return is almost ready and will be submitted on a timely basis. RARS currently has 257 members.
5. Secretary’s report (Charles WB4DCM): No report.
6. Committee reports:
 - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): RARS has three (3) public service events in June. Events and dates are listed on the web site.
 - b. Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): No report.
 - c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): Virginia was not present but has indicated that the next Technician Class will be scheduled after Field Day.
 - d. Field Day Chair (Mike WA4BPJ): No report.
 - e. FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): Gary was not present but it was announced that the Technical Group will hold a meeting on May 25 at the TRRS.
 - f. RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): John reported that we anticipate making a profit from the RARSFest. The picnic for the volunteers was held with about 20 of the 30 who signed up attending.
 - g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.
 - h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report.
 - i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): No report.

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- j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): No report.
- k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): Don did not have a specific report but did indicate that he has not received emails via the RARS Board list. That issue needs to be checked.
- l. At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): No report.
- m. At-Large Director (Steve KJ4BX): No report.
- n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.
- o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): No report.
- p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): No report.

7. Old Business:

- a. RARS budget for 2010-1011: Treasurer Greg KE4PAX presented the proposed budget for 2010-2011. After extensive discussion about various items, a motion was made by Karl W4CHX and seconded by Ken KI4OTO to accept the budget as presented. The motion passed. The constitution requires that a quorum be present for the Board to vote. There was discussion to look at changing the constitution to allow voting by electronic means.

8. New Business:

- a. Treasurer Greg advised that it was time to do a financial review. Ken KI4OTO, Don WA4AVU, and Karl W4CHX were appointed to work with Greg KE4PAX, conduct the review, and report to the Board at the June Board meeting.
- b. RARSFest used some facilities at the Vet School to hold VE exams. RARSFest is going to make a donation to the school for use of the facilities but the issue of to which fund should it be contributed. After discussion, it was decided that the donation should go to the general scholarship fund of the Vet School.
- c. Fundraising efforts to support RARS participation in ARRL Field Day 2010: David KF4VXJ advised that he had raised some donations. Ken KI4OTO advised that he had located a 50 gallon drum and electric pump. Now if we can locate some free gas. Karl W4CHX commented to be careful in making

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solicitations to properly identify the time period of the event and not to ask for too much.

- d. Possible donation/removal of 40 foot tower and related items. Mrs. Bet Helms-Wisdom, wife of former RARS member, Jim Wisdom K4HGC (SK) has contacted Karl W4CHX about removing a tower and other items from her premises. After extensive discussion about the project, how to handle the sale of the items, and the potential liability exposure to RARS, John AI4RT made the motion: that RARS decline as a project the disassembly of the tower, the three antennas and associated cables due to the potential liability exposure to RARS and its members. The motion was seconded by Karl W4CHX. The motion passed.
 - e. Ken KI4OTO made the comment that expenses incurred by members on behalf of RARS must be submitted to RARS within 30 days or the expense should be considered a donation to RARS. After discussion and consultation with the Treasurer, it was decided that expenses on behalf of RARS should be presented within a few days, but that members should not be penalized for late submissions.
9. Board Member's Comments: Karl W4CHX commented that the Dayton Hamvention this year was really good.
10. Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 9:09PM.

June 1, 2010 RARS General Meeting Minutes

**Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM,
RARS Secretary**

- 1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Karl W4CHX. There were 47 members and guests in attendance.
- 2. Approval of minutes: The Minutes of the RARS General Membership on May 4, 2010 were approved as written.
- 3. Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): The program for July will be "Old Radio Repair" presented by Tom Lewis N4TL. Programs for the remainder of the year have been

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determined. Justin thanked James KE6FNW and CJ KJ4OBQ for their donations of the snacks.

4. Announcements:

- a. RARS Dinner: second Tuesday, (6/8), 6:30 PM, to be decided; recommendations from club members include the Golden Corral on Capital Blvd close to Millbrook Road; or, one of the Buffalo Wild Wings restaurants; an email will be distributed once a decision has been reached; check I46.64 repeater on Tuesday (6/8) for any update information.
- b. Poll for RARS dinner: since Golden Corral is going to be closed temporarily, we need your input on places to try for the next several months; please use the poll for this purpose which is on the home page of the RARS website; key points to consider in your recommendation: up to 25 diners may be present, the cost of the meal should be inexpensive, buffet-style food selection is preferred, and availability of a private room is preferred; this could lead to a permanent change in location for future RARS dinners. Presently, very few votes have been received.
- c. RARS Board meeting: third Tuesday (6/15), 7:00 PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 103; any RARS member is welcome to attend. For more information, contact any RARS officer.
- d. After meeting gathering: Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by the Costco)
- e. RARS has received a thank you note from Chuck Littlewood K4HF for all the well wishes he has received following his surgery. President Karl read the note from Chuck.
- f. Gary KN4AQ was not present but reported that the Repeater Technical Committee met on May 25th and began work on the status, control operators, and planning for the repeaters.
- g. Guests: Wallace Smith KJ4UKV, Angier; Tom Magnani K2UCU, Cary; and Tom Lewis N4TL, Raleigh.

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5. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): The 2010-2011 budget was presented to the members. Following discussion, it was approved as written.
 6. Reports from RARS Board members and others:
 - a. Public Service Coordinator (John AI4RT) advised that we have several events coming up in the month of June. That includes Tour de Cure, MS Ice Cream Ride, Chatham Ride for Habitat, and the Fire Cracker 500 bike ride in Cary. Check the web for details and to volunteer.
 - b. Education Committee (Virginia NC4VA) reported that the next Technician Class would not be held until after Field Day. A date has yet to be set. She also announced that Skywarn Basic Training will be given on July 9th at the Jordan Lake Visitors Center.
 7. Any other business: Secretary Charlie WB4DCM invited everyone to attend the QCWA meeting on June 12th at the Classic Restaurant in Denton. Visitors are welcome. The meeting will begin at 12:30 PM to allow time for you to attend the Winston-Salem hamfest.
 8. Drawing: The winners were:
Joe Squashic W4TTO
James Staley KE6FNW
 9. Program: VP Justin then introduced Mike Murphy WA4BPJ, chairman of Field Day. Mike then gave us a very good review of the organization and operation for Field Day as well as a review of our past performance. We then viewed video highlights of the 1999 Field Day.
 10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM by Karl W4CHX
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Local Amateur Radio Nets

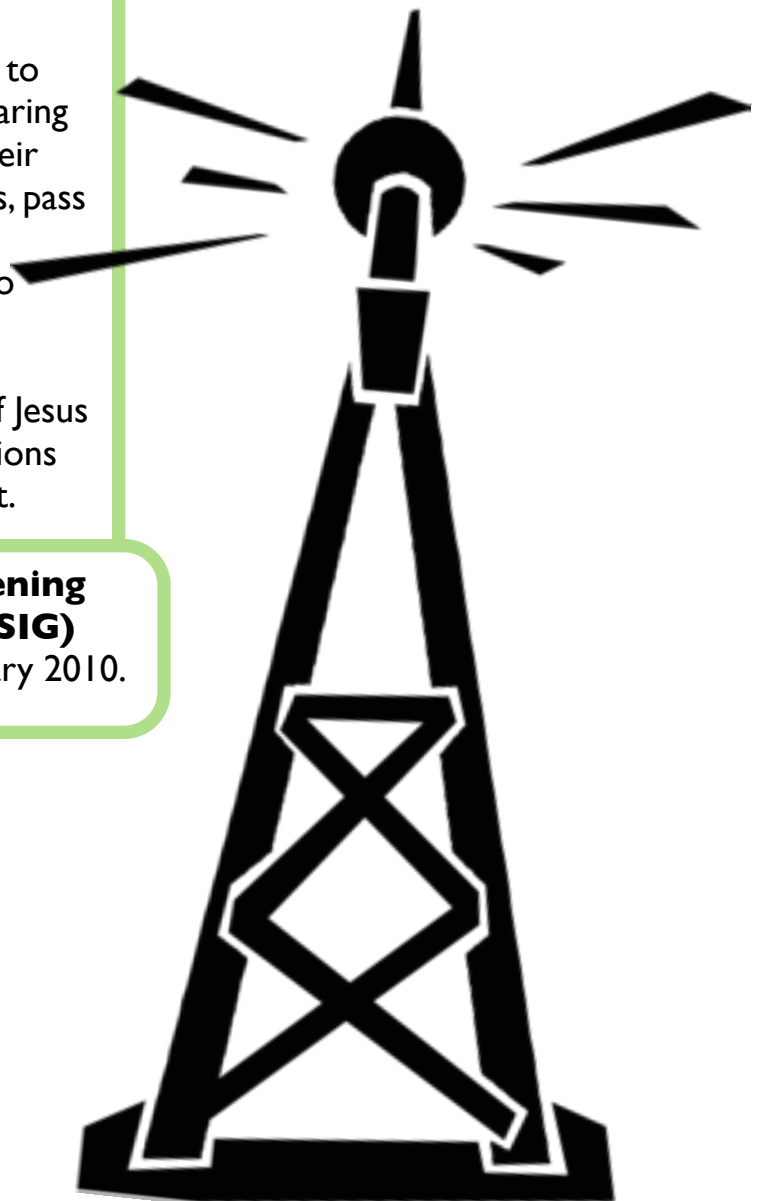
The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

Apex Emergency Response Communications Net

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

FYI: The **Tarheel Shortwave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Net** has been discontinued as of January 2010.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.



Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.880 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out www.wakeares.org.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

**Looking for the latest in
public service opportunities?
Visit www.rars.org to find
out about upcoming events
and sign up.**

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

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